

Umetco Minerals Corporation

INTERNAL
CORRESPONDENCE



PO BOX 579 4625 ROYAL AVENUE • NIAGARA FALLS NEW YORK 14302

To (Name) Mr. F. V. McMillen
Division Umetco Minerals Corporation
Danbury, CT

Location

Area

Copy to

Messrs.
J. F. Frost
T. J. Kagetsu
D. G. Millenbruch

Date July 2, 1986

Originating Dept TECHNOLOGY

Area

Answering Letter Date

Subject Environmental at Niagara

JUL 7 1986

E-10

On Wednesday, June 25, 1986, Jack Kagetsu and I met with Don Millenbruch to bring him up-to-date on the environmental and other issues in which we are involved. This letter is intended to give you the status of the activities at Niagara Falls, Jack Kagetsu will report on the other locations.

I am enclosing the "hand-out" that was used as the basis of our discussion. It contains both the status summary and proposed action. In addition, I am enclosing Schedule A which lists those items addressed in the "Environmental Agreement (Niagara Falls)" between Stratcor and Umetco which was also used in our discussion with Don.

The following comments pertain to decisions made at the meeting and to information received since June 25.

1. I have received the Transportation Permit Number from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. I can now proceed to make arrangements for disposing of the radioactive material through Chem Nuclear.

2. Disposal of the "Super Sucker" dust was discussed. It appeared that Stratcor, by asking SCA to bid on the disposal, was treating the material as a hazardous waste. This would cost us more for disposal. I have sent you a copy of a letter to George Parker that addresses this and other items.

3. Since the 25th we have received the second bid to remove the asbestos from the Niagara Plant. This bid was for \$88,000 (Frontier Insulation Contractors) compared to the \$49,700 (Niagara Insulations). Unfortunately neither bid included the approximately 900 feet of 8-inch steam line which is supported on a rack which carries the pipe from Niacet to where it enters the ground. Rebids have been requested.

UCCNHT0001942

Page 2
F. V. McMillen
July 2, 1986

4. Don Millenbruch said that a cash flow analysis would not justify removal of the boilers from the building on Niacet property. Therefore it was decided to only arrange for dismantling of the two stacks. Because one of the guy wires is broken it was suggested that we proceed with this at once.

5. Craig Wentzel and I have discussed filling in the pond east of No. 6 Furnace Room (Linde Lake) . We have not agreed to a satisfactory plan at this time.

6. It was decided that as each item is completed I would draft a letter to Stratcor (or Elkem) which they would sign signifying the work was completed to their satisfaction. These letters would be included in the appropriate files.

I will keep you posted on the progress of the various items.



D. J. Hansen

mau/
Enclosures

UCCNHT0001943

June 25, 1986

STATUS OF ENVIRONMENTAL, RECLAMATION AND TECHNICAL
PROBLEMS AT THE NIAGARA FALLS FACILITY

D. J. Hansen

1.0 TERMINATION OF RADIOACTIVE LICENSE

1.1 License 210-0090 (Technology) Radioactive Sources

Status: All radioactive sources, Thorium chemicals and crucibles, have been disposed of. Letter to New York State Department of Labor, with accompanying documentation, requesting termination of the license were mailed to Dr. Kasyk on February 7, 1986. Robert Kelly visited the site and took wipe tests on February 28, 1986.

Action: Inform Elkem Metals of wipe test results when available.

1.2 License 950-0139 (Plant) Processing Columbite Ores

Status: Contaminated soil south of Building 166 on the Technology Complex was sent to Barnwell, SC and Uravan, CO. - Letter documenting receipt of material and requesting termination was mailed to Robert Kelly on August 17, 1985. A second request for termination was made to Dr. Bradley on January 31, 1986. Robert Kelly attempted to obtain confirmation samples on February 28, 1986 but was unsuccessful due to the ground being frozen. He returned on March 20, 1986 and successfully obtained samples of the area.

Action. When State completes analysis of the samples we will be able to proceed with reclamation of the area (see Elkem below). However the license may not be terminated until additional radioactive waste is disposed of (see radioactive waste below.)

1.3 License 955-0139 (Plant) Radioactive Sources

Status: Cs source for Bin Level indicator was returned to the manufacturer in 1st half of 1985 by George Parker. State was notified.

Action: License still in Umetco's name. Should request a wipe test be completed to assure termination of License. (Note: Stratcor still has a source to calibrate VAI X-ray unit).

UCCNHT0001944

2.0 RECLAIM ELKEM PROPERTY

Status: R. J. Klotzbach wrote a letter to John Oxaal on August 6, 1984 agreeing to re-excavate areas behind Building 166, install permeable liner, and backfill with gravel.

Action: When State gives the okay to allow unrestricted use of the area the above work should be contracted and completed. A letter should be written to Elkem indicating our intentions.

3.0 REMOVE LOW LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE FROM NIAGARA SITE

3.1 VAI Slag - East of No. 6 Furnace Room

Status: 75.5 tons of material was sent to the SCA Hazardous Waste Disposal Site on June 18, 1986 at a cost of \$179/ton = \$13,500.

- Action:
- (a) Letter to NY State Department of Labor with documentation.
 - (b) Later in the year the NY State Hazardous Waste Tax must be paid.

3.2 Radioactive Illmenite

Status: One hundred thirty (130) 55-gallon drums of illmenite was sent to SCA on June 19 and 20, 1986 at a cost of \$14,200.

- Action:
- (a) Letter to NY State Department of Labor with documentation.
 - (b) Later in the year the NY State Hazardous Waste Tax must be paid.

3.3 Slag and Soil from No. 30 Furnace plus Radioactive Samples

Status. A check for \$500 along with a Proof of Liability was sent to the State of South Carolina to obtain a Transportation Permit. Paper work was initiated to alter the UCC Contract with Chem Nuclear Systems Inc. to enable them to act as brokers for this work.

Action: After the Transportation Permit is obtained, arrange for Chem Nuclear to send a Broker to Niagara Falls (probably mid-August) to prepare the material for transport to Barnwell. Forward documentation of receipt of the material to the New York State Department of Labor.

4.0 ESTABLISH BASELINE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITION OF YARD - EAST AND NORTH OF THE NIAGARA PLANT

4.1 Radiation Survey

Status: Memo issued May 15, 1986.

Action: None required.

4.2 Soil Sample Analysis

Status: Nine composite soil samples were analyzed for EP Toxicity, 13 Priority Pollutants, and PCB's. A memo was issued June 15, 1986.

Action. None required.

4.3 Lake "Linde"

Status: Water samples were analyzed. V. L. Gustavson was informed in a letter dated April 23, 1986 that the quality was okay. Samples of silt from the lake bed showed no pollution (memo June 15, 1986).

Action: L-Tec has begun to grade the area with fill from higher ground. Arrangements must be made to drain the section on Umetco property and to grade in conjunction with L-Tec.

5.0 ASBESTOS REMOVAL

Areas include Elevator Shaft, Building 111, old Boiler House and Storeroom for asbestos.

Status: Bids have been solicited. Two have responded.

Niagara Insulations - \$49,700.
Frontier - Pending

Action: Arrange and supervise removal by low bidder.

6.0 REMOVAL OF STACKS AND BOILERS FROM NIACET

Status: Quote from Niagara Insulations to remove and scrap two boiler stacks was \$1,400.

Quotation on boiler removal is pending.

Action: To arrange and supervise removal. (Note: One guy wire has snapped and the removal of the stack should proceed immediately.)

7.0 SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

7.1 Laboratory Equipment and Office Equipment

Status: Equipment and office supplies stored in Building 111 and the garage was let for bids on "take all, as is, where is" basis. J. Mercer of Buffalo agreed to \$10,000 for equipment but dropped to \$3000 after learning that the high bidder had withdrawn. Investment Recovery decided not to accept.

Action: Continue to cooperate with Investment Recovery.

7.2 Surplus Automobiles

Status: Requested forms from Investment Recovery.

8.0 PATENTS

Status: Transfer of patents to Stratcor is completed. Patent Applications on Roasting and Heap Leaching of UCAR Vanadium Ore have been written and submitted.

Action: Prepare final draft of Patent Application on "Burning Flexicoke" in conjunction with N. Balmer in early July. Answer objections from Patent Examiner on above and recent application by D. O. Skiles.

9.0 FILES

9.1 Technology Technical Files

Status: Personal files (Niagara and Grand Junction) and Marketing and Sales Development departmental files have been combined according to topic.

The uranium section has been incorporated into the Niagara Falls Technology files and is boxed for shipment to Grand Junction.

Action: Gold and silver will be completed and boxed by July 15. Vanadium and tungsten require considerable work.

9.2 Active Files

Status: Files on environmental and radioactive licenses are still on-going.

Action: Files must be maintained until license termination and then should be transferred to J. Frost at Grand Junction.

Schedule A

Niagara Falls, New York

Description of the Work

<u>Work to be Done</u>	<u>Estimated Cost M\$</u>	<u>Estimated Completion Date</u>
A. Replace, retrofill or dispose of PCB containing transformers, capacitors and dispose of cleanup materials.	200-250	8/86
B. Complete halide scrubber.	100	8/86
C. Dispose of chrome oxide <i>Completed!</i>	8-10	6/86
D. Remove globar elevator asbestos.	12-15	8/86
E. Dispose of hi antimony tungsten. <i>Completed</i>	15-25	10/86
F. Dispose of sample cans	15-25	10/86
G. Sample, test and dispose of, if necessary, super-sucker dust.	5-75	10/86
H. Yard area sampling and cleanup, if necessary. <i>Completed</i>	25- ? (big)	3/87
I. Drain and fill Lake Linde	25-50	12/86
J. Clean up radioactive areas of plant.	25-50	8/86

*Clean Up Complete
Disposal of Radioactive material
pending*